

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/759,446

Examiner

Melissa J Koval

Applicant(s)

MAY, GREGORY J.

Art Unit

2851

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the transmittal of new application of January 14, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-41.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 08/04.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Emmanuel Rivera on August 19, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Delete claims 1, 11, 26, and 33 and replace those with the following new claims:

-- Claim 1. A projection system comprising:

a primary light source;

a backup light source;

a spatial light modulator; and

a controller configured to determine if the primary light source has failed, activate the backup light source, and project a message from the spatial light modulator to a screen that the primary light source has failed. --

-- Claim 11. A method for indicating a primary light source out condition comprising:

determining that a primary light source has failed;

activating a backup light source;

conveying a message; and

projecting a message that the primary light source is out to a screen used to show projected images from the primary light source. --

-- Claim 26. A processor-readable medium comprising processor-executable instructions for indicating that a primary light source is out, the processor-executable instructions comprising instructions for:

- determining that a primary light source is not operational;
- activating a backup light source;
- conveying a message; and
- projecting a message to a screen using light from the backup light source indicating that the primary light source is out. --

-- Claim 33. A projection system comprising:

- means for determining a condition of a primary light source;
- means for activating a backup light source if the condition of the primary light source is determined to be non-operational;
- means for conveying a message; and
- means for providing a message to a screen using light from the backup light.--

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a projection system comprising all of the elements of claim 1, and in particular "a controller configured to determine if the primary light source has failed, activate the backup light source, and

project a message from the spatial light modulator to a screen that the primary light source has failed.”

The prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a method comprising all of the steps of claim 11, and in particular the steps of “conveying a message; and projecting a message that the primary light source is out to a screen used to show projected images from the primary light source.”

The prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a processor-readable medium as in claim 26 comprising all of the processor-executable instructions of claim 26, and in particular: “conveying a message; and projecting a message to a screen using light from the backup light source indicating that the primary light source is out.”

The prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a projection system comprising all of the elements of claim 33, and in particular “means for conveying a message; and means for providing a message to a screen using light from the backup light.”

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Peng U.S. Patent 6,666,896 B1 teaches a projection display having a high reliability illumination system.

Childers et al. U.S. Patent 6,733,139 B2 teaches a projector with narrow-spectrum light source to complement broad-spectrum light source.

Ishikawa et al. U.S. Patent 6,758,579 B2 illuminating-light controller, projector, and illuminating-light control method.

Steffensmeier U.S. Patent 6,540,363 B1 teaches a high reliability display system.

Rayner U.S. Patent 5,994,791 teaches a portable controlled lighting system.


Ueyama et al. U.S. Patent 6,467,911 B1 teaches projector and lamp unit.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melissa J Koval whose telephone number is (571) 272-2121. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MJK


JUDY NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER